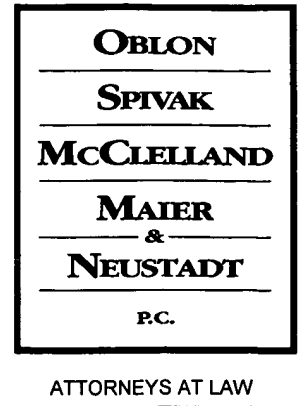




Docket No.: 246572US2

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313



RE: Application Serial No.: 10/735,690
Applicants: Hiroyuki SUHARA
Filing Date: December 16, 2003
For: LENS FOR OPTICAL SCANNING, OPTICAL
SCANNER, AND IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS
Group Art Unit: 2873
Examiner: Jack DINH

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

Response to Restriction Requirement

Our check in the amount of **-0-** is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Gregory J. Maier

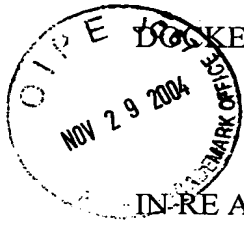
Registration No. 25,599

Customer Number

22850

(703) 413-3000 (phone)
(703) 413-2220 (fax)

Philip J. Hoffmann
Registration No. 46,340



DOCKET NO: 246572US2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN-RE APPLICATION OF

:

HIROYUKI SUHARA

: EXAMINER: JACK DINH

SERIAL NO: 10/735,690

:

FILED: DECEMBER 16, 2003

: GROUP ART UNIT: 2873

FOR: LENS FOR OPTICAL SCANNING,
OPTICAL SCANNER, AND IMAGE
FORMING APPARATUS

:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated October 28, 2004, Applicant elects with
traverse the invention of Group I, Claims 1-15, drawn to a lens.

Applicant respectfully traverses the outstanding restriction requirement for the
following reason.

MPEP § 8703 states:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made
without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even
though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

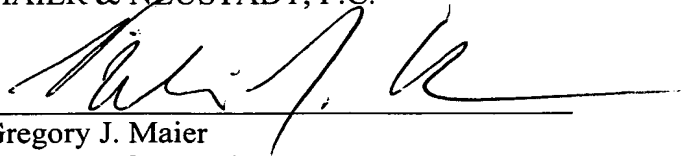
The claims of the present invention would appear to be part of an overlapping search
area. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully traverses the outstanding requirement on the
grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a *serious*
burden on the Examiner.

Application No. 10/735,690
Reply to Office Action of October 28, 2004

Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the requirement to elect a single invention be withdrawn, and that a full examination on the merits of Claims 1-19 be conducted.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gregory J. Maier', is written over a horizontal line.

Gregory J. Maier
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 25,599

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

Philip J. Hoffmann
Registration No. 46,340